

Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 AID-20 IGA-02 EB-11 AGR-20 OMB-01 IO-13

DPW-01 CIAE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10

PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-15 RSR-01 /152 W

----- 000255

P R 201145Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2667

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

CINCPAC CP SMITH HI

COMUSMACTHAI

DIA WASHDC

SECDEF

USSAG

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 PHNOM PENH 8723

FOR STATE/AID

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EGEN, EAID, CB

SUBJECT: RICE SITUATION

REF: PHNOM PENH 8509

1. THE FOLLOWING IS A PROJECTION OF THE RICE SITUATION IN
PHNOM PENH COVERING THE PERIOD FROM AUGUST 12 THROUGH AUGUST
24, 1973.

8/12 8/13 8/14 8/15

BEGINNING STOCK 25,189.2 25,189.2 25,901.6 25,187.0

ROUTE 5 -- 1,353 -- --

TOTAL AVAILABLE 25,189.2 26,542.2 25,901.6 25,187.0

LESS DISTRIBUTION -- 635.3 714.6 770.2

BALANCE 25,189.2 25,906.9 25,187.0 24,416.8

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LESS ADJUSTMENT -- 5.3 -- --

BALANCE 25,189.2 25,901.6 25,187.0 24,416.8

8/16 8/17 8/18 8/19

BEGINNING STOCK 24,416.8 23,804.5 23,381.2 24,021.4
 ROUTE 5 -- -- 1,325 --
 TOTAL AVAILABLE 24,416.8 23,804.5 24,706.2 24,021.4
 LESS DISTRIBUTION 612.3 422.9 624.4 520
 BALANCE 23,804.5 23,381.6 24,081.8 23,501.4
 LESS ADJUSTMENT -- .4 60.4 --
 BALANCE 23,804.5 23,381.2 24,021.4 23,501.4

8/20 8/21 8/22 8/23

BEGINNING STOCK 23,501.4 22,981.4 23,461.4 22,941.4
 ROUTE 5 -- 1,000 -- --
 TOTAL AVAILABLE 23,501.4 23,981.4 23,461.4 22,941.4
 LESS DISTRIBUTION 520 520 520 520
 BALANCE 22,981.4 23,461.4 22,941.4 22,421.4
 LESS ADJUSTMENT -- -- -- --
 BALANCE 22,981.4 23,461.4 22,941.4 22,421.4

8/24

BEGINNING STOCK 22,421.4
 ROUTE 5 --
 TOTAL AVAILABLE 22,421.4
 LESS DISTRIBUTION 520
 BALANCE 22,421.4 - 43.1 DAYS

2. STOCK POSITION AND RICE DISTRIBUTION. AS OF AUGUST 20TH THERE WERE APPROXIMATELY 22,981.4 MT OF RICE ON HAND IN PHNOM PENH WAREHOUSES OR APPROXIMATELY 44 DAYS SUPPLY. THE RICE DISTRIBUTION RATE CONTINUES TO BE RELATIVELY HIGH AVERAGING 540.0 MT DURING THE PAST WEEK. AS REPORTED REFTTEL, THE INCREASE IS AT LEAST PARTIALLY ATTRIBUTABLE TO A GENERAL MALAISE CREATED BY THE CESSATION OF U.S. AIR SUPPORT. ANOTHER FACTOR HAS BEEN THE STEPPED-UP AIRLIFTS TO KOMPONG CHAM, KOMPONG THOM AND SVAY RIENG, WHICH AVERAGED 130 MT PER DAY LAST WEEK. THE AIRLIFT RATE SHOULD DROP SOON AS STOCKAGE ABJECTIVES ARE MET, AT WHICH TIME THE AIRLIFT WILL CONTINUE

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WITH ONLY ENOUGH RICE TO MEET DAILY CONSUMPTION REQUIREMENTS.

3. ROUTE 5. THE ROUTE REMAINS OPNE. DURING THE LAST SEVERAL DAYS, HOWEVER, ENEMY PRESSURE ON THE ROAD HAS INCREASED SLIGHTLY NEAR KOMPONG CHHNANG. A CONVOY ARRIVED IN PHNOM PENH ON AUGUST 18TH WITH 1,325 MT OF RICE, PADDY (CONVERTED TO RICE EQUIVALENT), AND BROKENS. THE NEXT CONVOY IS SCHEDULED TO ARRIVE IN PHNOM PENH ON AUGUST 21ST. ALTHOUGH THERE IS NOT DEFINITE INFORMATION

YET ON THE AMOUNT OF RICE TO BE BROUGHT IN BY THIS NEXT CONVOY,
WE ARE PROJECTING A MINIMUM OF 1,000 MT.

THE PALCEMENT IN BATTAMBANG OF A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE CME IS
BOGGED DOWN IN BUREAUCRATIC PROCEDURE AND THE RICE COMMITTEE IS STILL
NOT RECEIVING ACCURATE INFORMATION FROM BATTAMBANG IN A TIMELY
MANNER.

SATRAR STOCKS IN BATTAMBANG ARE ALMOST EXHAUSTED AND WHAT REMAINS,
150 MT OF RICE AND 2,950 BAGS OF PADDY, WILL BE TRANSPORTED TO
PHNOM PENH BY AUGUST 21ST CONVOY. PRESENT STOCKS HELD BY SORAPA
ARE NOT KNOWN, THOUGH THERE ARE REPORTS THAT SORAPA IS AGAIN BUY-
ING RICE IN SANGKE DISTRICT OF BATTAMBANG PROVINCE.

AS STATED PREVIOUSLY, FUTURE CONVOYS WILL DEPEND TO A LARGE DEGREE
UPON THE GOVERNOR OF BATTAMBANG'S ACTIVE COOPERATION. AS A RESULT
OF THE AMBASSADOR'S RECENT INTERVENTION WITH LON NOL, THE GOVERNOR
HAS BEEN CHARGED WITH THE RESPONSIBILITY OF PROVIDING 8,000 MT OF
RICE FOR PHNOM PENH NEEDS, AND HAS BEEN ARMED WITH FULL POWERS,
INCLUDING REQUISITION AUTHORITY TO ACCOMPLISH THIS END. THIS WEEK
SHOULD SERVE AS AN INDEX OF HIS INTENTIONS.

4. ROUTE 4. THIS ROUTE IS NOW CLOSED. THOUGH REPORTS ARE SKETCHY,
IT HAS BEEN CONFIRMED THAT ON AUGUST 19TH THE ENEMY SEIZED A SEC-
TION OF ROAD EAST OF KOMPONG SPEU. THOUGH THE ROAD REMAINS CLOSED
AT THIS TIME, GKR IS ORGANIZING A MAJOR OPERATION TO DISLODGE THE
ENEMY AND ROUTE 4 IS EXPECTED TO BE QUICKLY OPENED TO CONVOY
TRAFFIC.

5. THAI RICE. ACCORDING TO LY KIM HENG, TWO VESSELS SHOULD COM-
PLETE LOADING OPERATIONS IN BANGKOK ON AUGUST 21ST. THE FIRST
VESSEL WITH 3,500 MT WILL SAIL TO KOMPONG SOM. THE SECOND ONE WITH
1,500 MT IS EXPECTED TO JOIN THE REGULAR MEKONG CONVOY SCHEDULED
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FOR SEPTEMBER 3RYTWEVDQUPTRGRJRNBKBRQTUIKGQOGQDMTWZSMGST FIVE DAYS
AMOUNTS TO THE FOLLOW-

ING NUMBER OF SORTIES AND METRIC TONS:

KOMPONG THOM SVAY RIENG KOMPONG CHAM

8/15 4 - 11.6 5 - 15.0 9 - 64.6 (GKR)
9 - 49.3 (AIR AMERICA)

8/16 2 - 5.7 5 - 15.0 8 - 57.3 (GKR)
11 - 58.4 (AIR AMERICA)

8/17 4 - 11.5 1 - 3.0 7 - 50.7 (GKR)
14 - 68.4 (AIR AMERICA)

8/18 6 - 16.9 1 - 5.1 5 - 36.2 (GKR)

13 - 73.4 (AIR AMERICA)

8/19 5 - 14.0 5 - 15.0 5 - 36.2 (GKR)
12 - 68.7 (AIR AMERICA)

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 AID-20 IGA-02 CIAE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-15

EB-11 AGR-20 OMB-01 DPW-01 IO-13 RSR-01 /152 W

----- 000365

P R 201145Z AUG 73
FM AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2668
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMEMBASSY SAIGON
CINCPAC CP SMITH HI
COMUSMACHTAI
DIA WASHDC
SECDEF
USSAG

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 PHNOM PENH 8723

IN THE FACE OF INCREASED ENEMY ACTIVITY AROUND KOMPONG CHAM, BOTH THE GKR AND AIR AMERICA'S RICE AIRLIFTS HAVE KEPT UP A HIGH RATE OF DELIVERY IN ORDER TO COMPLETE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A 30-DAY SECURITY STOCK OF 800 MT AHEAD OF THE ORIGINAL SEPTEMBER 1ST TARGET DATE. AS A RESULT, KOMPONG CHAM HAD A STOCK OF 952 MT AS OF AUGUST 19TH CONSISTING OF 861.7 MT OF RICE AND 164.6 MT OF PADDY (THE EQUIVALENT OF 90.5 MT OF RICE). AFTER AUGUST 205#, AIR AMERICA WILL DISCONTINUE ITS FLIGHTS TO KOMPONG CHAM SINCE THE OBJECTIVE OF A 30-DAY SUPPLY HAS ALREADY BEEN ACHIEVED. THE GKR WILL CONTINUE ITS OWN RICE AIRLIFT, ASSUMING THE ENEMY DOES NOT INTERDICT AIR TRAFFIC AT KOMPONG CHAM, BUT AT A REDUCED PACE TO MEET ONLY ON-GOING REQUIREMENTS NOW ESTIMATED AT 27 MT PER DAY. SVAY RIENG REPORTS A STOCK ON HAND OF 878 MT OF RICE AS OF AUGUST 18TH, WHICH IS GETTING CLOSE TO THE SEPTEMBER 1ST TARGET OF 1,000 MT. SINCE AN ADDITIONAL 900 MT HAS NOW BEEN RELEASED ON SAIGON

BY THE GVN FOR CAMBODIA, THE GKR'S RICE COMMITTEE HAS DECIDED TO ASK AIR AMERICA TO AIRLIFT 400 MT FROM SAIGON TO SVAY RIENG. THE REMAINING BALANCE OF 500 MT WILL BE MOVED TO PHNOM PENH VIA THE MEKONG UNDER ARRANGEMENTS TO BE WORKED OUT BY LY KIM HENG WHO
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IS PRESENTLY IN SAIGON. THE GKR'S AIRLIFT TO SVAY RIENG IS TO BE STEPPED UP TO 7 OR 8 SORTIES A DAY TO MEET ON-GOING REQUIREMENTS NOW ESTIMATED AT 26 MT PER DAY. SVAY RIENG EXPECTS TO HARVEST A SMALL LOCAL CROP OF RICE IN OCTOBER , WITH THE THIRD AND MAJOR CROP OF THE YEAR DUE TO BE HARVESTED IN DECEMBER.

KOMPONG THOM REPORTS A STOCK OF RICE OF 100 MT AS OF AUGUST 19TH, WHICH REPRESENTS 14.3 DAYS' SUPPLY ON THE BASIS OF A DAILY CONSUMPTION OF 7 MT. DOMESTIC AIRLINES HAVE BEEN INSTRUCTED BY THE RICE COMMITTEE TO STEP UP THE NUMBER OF DAILY SORTIES IN ORDER TO BUILD UP THE STOCK TO 200 MT OR A 30-DAY LEVEL BY SEPTEMBER 1ST. KOMPONG THOM AUTHORITIES HAVE CONFIRMED THAT 1,300 HECTARES HAVE BEEN PLANTED FOR NEXT DECEMBER'S CROP.

7. AFTER THE ABOVE WAS DRAFTED, WE RECEIVED NEWS THAT ROUTE 4 HAS BEEN REOPENED TO TRAFFIC.
SWANK

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 20 AUG 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: elyme
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973PHNOM08723
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS SWANK
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: PHNOM PENH
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730827/aaaaatxc.tel
Line Count: 250
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <20-Nov-2001 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <03-Jan-2002 by elyme>
Review Markings:

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US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

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Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
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TAGS: EGEN, EAID, CB
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005